

January 3, 1917
Hooker (rural Viborg) SD
September 14, 2005
Sioux Falls

Viborg Enterprise
September 21, 2005

Berl C. Jorgensen



Berl C. (Jorg) Jorgensen lived 88 wonderful years. He died at home, September 14, 2005. His family surrounded him with peace and comfort, as he passed on to join other loved ones.

Berl was born on January 3, 1917 in Hooker, SD near Viborg, SD. He was adopted as an infant by Sena and Steffen Jorgensen. He located his birth sister, Ruby Arnold from State College, PA in 1970. They enjoyed a great family relationship.

Berl first spotted his future love, Helen, in a SDSU yearbook. They soon joined each other at a SDSU dance, which eventually led to a fulfilling 65 years of marriage. Into this marriage, they shared their lives with four children. Berl was a star basketball player in Viborg, earning a sport's scholarship. While attending 2 years at USD, Vermillion, SD he was affiliated with the SAE Fraternity. Berl graduated from SDSU, Brookings, SD with a BS degree in Economics.

He served his country in WWII as an officer on the Navy ship LST 392. Locating to Sioux Falls in 1941, Berl and Helen became owners of Jorgensen's Children Shop. Later he became self-employed as the owner of Jorgensen's Supply and was affiliated with Sioux Falls Builders Exchange. At the age of 80 he asked his children if he was old enough to retire.

Berl had an active life with many hobbies and a multitude of friendships. These friends buried a time capsule in 1958, and joined together for Memorial Day picnics. Each Memorial Day attendance grew, as families got larger. Twenty-five years later, in 1983, the time capsule was opened and it contained, family mementos, predictions and keepsake letters.

He enjoyed hunting with his Championship Brittany Spaniels and became a field trial judge. Berl and Helen wintered in Green Valley, AZ for 15 years. He loved to design pottery by using a pottery wheel and Helen would pick the colors to glaze the finished pots. Summers, from childhood to adult age, were often spent at the family lake cabin at Swan Lake.

Blessed to have shared his life is his wife Helen (Lang) and their children, Kay (Dale) Gordon of Davis, SD, Brad (Sue) Jorgensen of Snohomish WA, Jan (Dave) Buehner of Canistota, SD; special daughter-in-law, Cheryl Jorgensen of Swan Lake, SD; twelve grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

His son Steven Jorgensen preceded him in death and is there to welcome his dad into heaven. He was also preceded in death by his sister Bea Arnold.

We will all miss him, but the great memories, his wisdom and

understanding nature, his sense-of-humor will stay alive in our hearts. Those bright blue eyes will watch over and help guide us every day.

There will be a prayer and celebration of life memorial service 11:00 am Monday, September 19, 2005 at Calvary Cathedral Episcopal Church 13th & Main. The family request memorials be directed for a bird sanctuary at Swan Lake Park.

For obituary and on-line registry, please visit www.millerfh.com